

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-13, and 15-19 are rejected. Claims 2, 3, 13, and 14 have been canceled. Claims 3, 14, and 15 are independent claims. Claims 1, 8, and 15 have been amended. Claims 1-19 are pending in the Application.

Figures stand objected under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because the specification uses same reference character “102” to define both an external core and an internal clad. In response, the specification has been amended to recite “102” as the external core and “103” as the internal clad.

Claim 18 stand objected because the claim ends with a comma instead of period. In response, the claim has been amended to correct the informality.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully request to withdraw objection and rejection to the figures and claim.

Claims 1, 2, 8, and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Kato et al. (U.S. 6,266,467 B1) (“Kato”).

Applicant wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 3 and 14 would be allowable if incorporated in the respective independent claims. In response, claims 3 and 14 are amended to incorporate the respective base and intervening claims. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection and early passage of the claims and all other claims that depend on claims 3 and 14.

Claim 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Kato et al. (U.S. 6,266,467 B1) (“Kato”).

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 15, as amended, now recites features not taught by Kato. In particular, amended claim recites “wherein the diameters meet with the relationships of $0 \leq d1/d2 \leq 0.8$ and $0.1 \leq d2/d3 \leq 0.5$ and the refractive indexes meet with the relationships of $n1 > n2 \geq n3 \geq n4$, $0.0034 \leq (n1-n4)/n1 \leq 0.007$, $0 \leq (n2-n4)/n2 \leq 0.0048$, and $0 \leq (n3-n4)/n3 \leq 0.0014$.”

Applicant respectfully submits no where in Kato teach or show that the diameters and refractive index of its fiber meet the relationship, as recited in amended claim 15.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Other claims in this application are each dependent on the independent claims and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the present Application is patentable in view of cited reference. A notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. If any issues remain which may be best resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to kindly telephone the undersigned telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
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Date: June 16, 2005

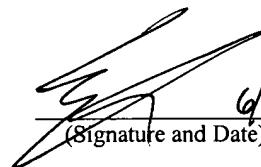
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6/16/05
(Signature and Date)